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GOVERNOR

**STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

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JOHNNY B. BRADBERRY  
SECRETARY

Information Meeting- Contract Number One.  
ER-3605(524)  
S.P. 450-17-0025

Dear Members of the Bridge Construction Industry:

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development will hold a contractors' information meeting at 1:00PM, December 14, 2005 in the LaDOTD Headquarters' Auditorium, 1201 Capitol Access Road Baton Rouge, La. This meeting is being called to reveal plan details for the I-10 Twin Bridge replacement over Lake Pontchartrain. The project features 5.5 miles of twin bridges, each 62.5 feet wide that connect St. Tammany with Orleans Parish in Louisiana.

Presently, the plans entail two major contracts. The first contract is for the construction of the simple, repetitive, low and mid-level portions of the structure. The goal is to quickly complete at least one direction of the low and mid-level portion. Construction time to complete one direction should not exceed thirty months from the letting.

The second contract consists of building the mile long, high level portion, (navigational crossing), one elevated ramp, and roadway approaches on the same bridge. In order to provide a usable structure, the goal for this second contract is for completion to coincide with the completion dates of the first contract.

Both contracts will offer the option to choose between the conventional I-beam and the segmental box girder construction. Additional options provided, include the use of precast caps where possible. A companion information meeting will take place in March 2006, to reveal details of the second contract.

Both contracts and their alternates will contain similar substructure options, piles and drilled shafts. The substructure design has taken into account barge collision resistance, wave action loads, durability, and accessibility to materials and equipment.

In order to expedite the project and lower the Department and Contractor's risks, an advanced test pile and test shaft program will be let in January 2006 in advance of this project. This program will establish optimal loads along the project, as well as determine substructure order lengths. Additionally, the Department is in the process of obtaining construction servitude of 5 acres at each bridge end for a contractor's staging area.

We welcome your comments and questions in writing, either by e-mail or by normal correspondence. The Department will be accepting questions until Monday, December 12, 2005. Any questions received by this time will be responded to anonymously at the meeting. Questions will also be accepted at the meeting.

The goals for these replacement structures include better storm protection, safe accommodation for six traffic lanes, enhanced barge collision resistance, and utilization of well-known materials and techniques to provide for a low maintenance and long service life bridge. We are confident the Industry can help us in making these goals a reality.

Thank you for your participation,

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